

## **Nufarm statement – 2016 Ramrod recall**

Late in 2016 Nufarm became aware that batches of product 'Ramrod', manufactured by a toll manufacturer in 2015 and 2016 and sold under former Nufarm brand 'Crop Care' contained low level traces of out-of-specification ingredients.

### **Nufarm actions upon becoming aware of this matter**

Nufarm was alerted to this matter following a grower report of crop damage. Nufarm immediately initiated independent laboratory testing of both the relevant batch and all Ramrod products dating back to 2011. This testing showed product manufactured between 2011 and 2014 did not contain out-of-specification ingredients and only product manufactured in 2015 and 2016 was affected.

Nufarm swiftly notified the APVMA and conducted a thorough voluntary recall under APVMA supervision, proactively informing growers, channel partners and industry groups. While only product manufactured in 2015 and 2016 was affected, we accepted returns of all Ramrod product to make the process as simple as possible for growers and our distribution partners.

To ensure this issue posed no risk to consumers, Nufarm established and communicated a testing service, that at no cost to the grower, used independent laboratory facilities to test soil and crop samples provided by growers. This service received over 100 samples, with test results communicated by laboratories to growers individually. A company web page was established and maintained that hosted updates, testing information and contact details.

The company also promptly contacted and provided supporting information to resellers, informing them of the recall, and ensuring that they removed the product from sale. We requested that they inform growers who had purchased the product of the recall, and make them aware that a free of charge testing service was available and that all product should be returned to place of purchase for a full credit.

In addition, Nufarm's large field team directly contacted growers known to have used the product to inform them of the recall.

Nufarm also proactively contacted grower groups and major produce processors requesting that they inform growers that may have used this product of the recall. This included direct to grower notifications via Hort Innovation Australia and AUSVEG who provided this information to all levy-paying growers in Australia.

### **Outcome of this proactive voluntary recall**

As a result of this thorough recall Nufarm has not received any new reports of issues regarding this recall for almost two years.

At the time of the recall a small number of growers reported their crops may have been affected by this product. Nufarm has worked with growers who have made a claim on a case-by-case basis and remains committed to working with the single outstanding impacted claimant to resolve their claim.

Nufarm continues to invest in quality assurance programs and we remain committed to providing Australian growers with high quality products that help them get more from their land.